**Introduction for the Symposium**

Mauricio Uriona Maldonado currently serves as Associate Professor in the Department of Production and Systems Engineering at UFSC, where he lectures in undergraduate and graduate courses and also as Extraordinary Associate Professor at the Department of Industrial Engineering at the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa for the period 2022 to 2025.

With over 17 years of expertise in developing system dynamics models, Mauricio has applied his knowledge in the Energy, Software, and Telecom sectors and has participated in projects funded by many national and international organizations, including FIESC, FAPESC, the EU 7th Framework Programme, GIZ, DAAD, CNPq, and CAPES.

Mauricio holds a Phd and a Master’s degree in Knowledge Management and Engineering, both at UFSC in partnership with Duke University and also an Industrial Engineering Degree at the Military Engineering School of Bolivia.

He directs the Sustainable Energy Innovation Group (Sinergia) at UFSC, where he spearheads initiatives pushing the Energy Transition, including research in energy policies, energy planning, and alternative energy sources in the Energy and Transportation sectors. He is author of more than 70 peer-reviewed journal articles and more than 160 conference presentations around the world and has served as visiting scholar in renowned institutions worldwide, including Universidad Nacional del Sur in Argentina, Universität Bremen in Germany, MIT in the US, University of Tampere in Finland, and Universidad Autonoma de Madrid in Spain.